Space Programme of the Country

2475. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of space programmes carried out by the country during the last five years successfully and otherwise;

(b) what is Government's plan in this regard by the end of this century;

(c) whether country is getting some external assistance in this regard; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) During the last five years, five launch vehicles and ten satellites have been launched as under:

Augmented Satellite Launch Vehicle (ASLV):

Two launches namely ASLV-D3 on May 20, 1992 and ASLV-D4 on May 04, 1994, were conducted successfully.

Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV):

Three developmental flights completed, viz, PSLV-D1 on September 20, 1993, PSLV-D2 on October 15, 1994 and PSLV-D3 on March 21, 1996. PSLV-D1, though not successful in placing the satellite, IRS-1E, into the intended orbit due to an on board software implementation error, proved almost all the sub-systems of the PSLV class of vehicle for subsequent launches. Launch of PSLV-D2 and PSLV-D3 were successful.

Stretched Rohini Satellite Series (SROSS):

Two Satellites, SROSS-C and SROSS-C2, successfully launched on board ASLV-D3 and ASLV-D4, respectively.

Indian Remote Sensing Satellite (IRS):

Five satellites viz., IRS-1B, IRS-1C, IRS-1E, IRS-P2 and IRS-P3 were realised. IRS-1B and IRS-1C were launched from Soviet Cosmodrome on August 29, 1991 and December 28, 1995, respectively and these satellites are being operated, successfully. IRS-1E could not be placed in the intended orbit by PSLV-D1. IRS-P2 and IRS-P3 were launched by PSLV-D2 and PSLV-D3 and are in successful operation.

Indian National Satellite System (INSAT);

Three satellites, INSAT-2A, INSAT-2B 2B and INSAT- 2C, were launched on July 10, 1992, July 23, 1993 and December 7, 1995 respectively and are being operated successfully.

(b) Launch of five launch vehicles and eight satellites are planned by the end of this century, as follows:

(i) *Polar satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV):*

Three launches viz., PSLV-C1, PSLV-C2 and PSLV-C3 are planned.

(ii) *Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV):*

Two Development launches of GSLV are planned.

(iii) *GSAT:*

Two experimental communication satellites are palanned on-baord GSLV.

(iv) *Indian Romote Sensing Satellite (IRS):*

Four satellites viz., IRS-ID, IRS-P4, IRS-P5 and IRS-P6 are being planned for launch on board PSLV flights.

(v) *Indian National Satellite System (INSAT):*

Two satellites viz., INSAT-2D and INSAT-2E are planned for launch.

(c) and (d) The Indian Space program me is primarily self-reliant. However,

wherever advantageous, on considerations of time schedule and economic viability, certain chemicals, hardware, components and parts are imported on a commercial basis, and launch services procured. There is no external financial assistance for the programme.

Low Central Investment in Kerala

2476. SHRI THENNALA BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central investment in Kerala is very low as compared to other States;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) what is the mode of central investment in States in various sectors;

(d) the total Central investment in States, State-wise; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to change the present mode of selection of investment in the near future and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (d) Central investment is made for the country as a whole keeping the National priorities in view. It is neither planned nor accounted state-wise.

(e) Keeping in view the national priority, the proposal of Government of Kerala in this regard, as and when received will be considered on merit.

Power Rates of Private Companies

2477. SHRIMATI VEENA VERMA: SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR: SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of power rates contemplated under the power purchaseagreements signed with different private companies who have undertaken to set up power plants in different States and the power rates to be charged from consumers of various categories;

(b) the details of power generating capacity to be installed and the nature of fuel to be used by each firm; and

(c) the stage of Central Government clearance of the respective projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) to (c) The power purchase agreement (PPA) is a contract between the State Electricity Board (SEBs) and the independent power producers (IPPs) and usually covers the modalities for purchase/sale of power negotiated between the two parties. The power rates to be charged from various categories of consumers are fixed by the State Government/State Electricity Boards.

The Government have only stipulated certain ceiling parameters/norms for fixation of tariff vide its notification dated 30.3.1992 within which the States have to negotiate the tariff with IPPs.

As per information available 23 PPAs have been negotiated between IPPs and SEBs, the details of which are in the statement.